

Local Public Health Authority and Advocacy

Statewide Public Health Meeting
January 10, 2018



**SCOTT CLARDY, COLUMBIA/BOONE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

County Health Centers



- Chapter 205, RSMo, provides the basis for the establishment of county health centers, board of health (trustees), and levying a tax
- 205.042.3 states “The board of health center trustees shall make and adopt such bylaws, rules and regulations for its own guidance and for the government of the county health center as may be deemed expedient for the economic and equitable conduct thereof.”
- The large majority of LPHA’s are governed under Chapter 205.

192.300, RSMo



- **192.300.** The county commissions **and** the county health center boards of the several counties may make and promulgate orders, ordinances, rules or regulations, respectively as will tend to enhance the public health and prevent the entrance of infectious, contagious, communicable or dangerous diseases into such county, but any orders, ordinances, rules or regulations shall not be in conflict with any rules or regulations authorized and made by the department of health and senior services in accordance with this chapter or by the department of social services under chapter 198. The county commissions **and** the county health center boards of the several counties may establish reasonable fees to pay for any costs incurred in carrying out such orders, ordinances, rules or regulations, however, the establishment of such fees shall not deny personal health services to those individuals who are unable to pay such fees or impede the prevention or control of communicable disease. Fees generated shall be deposited in the county treasury. All fees generated under the provisions of this section shall be used to support the public health activities for which they were generated. After the promulgation and adoption of such orders, ordinances, rules or regulations by such county commission **or** county health board, such commission **or** county health board shall make and enter an order or record declaring such orders, ordinances, rules or regulations to be printed and available for distribution to the public in the office of the county clerk, and shall require a copy of such order to be published in some newspaper in the county in three successive weeks, not later than thirty days after the entry of such order, ordinance, rule or regulation. Any person, firm, corporation or association which violates any of the orders or ordinances adopted, promulgated and published by such county commission is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be prosecuted, tried and fined as otherwise provided by law. The county commission **or** county health board of any such county has full power and authority to initiate the prosecution of any action under this section.

Legislative Challenges



- Legislative has been introduced for several years that would require the concurrence of the county commission for any ordinances passed by the county health board
- All of these legislative attempts have failed
- Rep. Love has introduced the legislation this year as HB 1480

Strategies



- 2006 Attorney General's Opinion
- 2009 Attorney General's Opinion
- 2009 Senator Caskey Letter
- County Commission Letter to present to Legislative Committee
- Video to email to Legislative Committee members
- Twitter conversation preceding committee hearing on HB 1480

Advocacy



- There is a need to go beyond just talking about budget or individual legislative bills
- The larger scope of public health needs to be emphasized
- Propose groups with similar goals work together on this (Policy group, Transformation group, MoALPHA, MoCPHE, etc.)
- How should we do this?

Advocacy Ideas



- **Bullet Points**

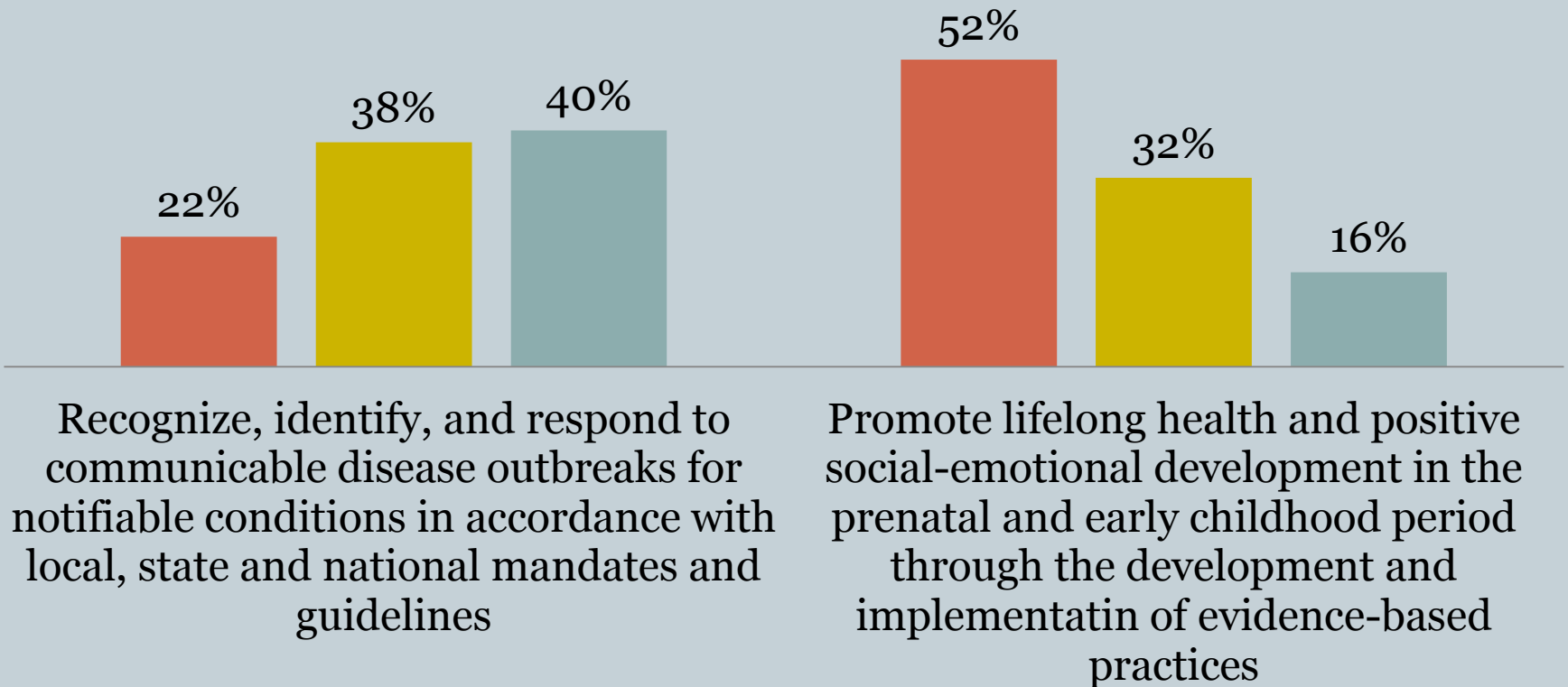
- Factoids we could memorize
- Combine data with impact
 - ✦ Missouri is 50th out of 51 in local public health funding
 - ✦ Only 40% of LPHAs feel they can respond well or very well to communicable disease outbreaks
 - ✦ Only 55% of LPHAs feel they are able to conduct mandated environmental public health inspections and oversight to protect food either well or very well
 - ✦ Only 48% of LPHAs feel they are able to conduct mandated environmental public health inspections and oversight to protect lodging
- Charts and graphs that could be cut and pasted into other documents

Example Chart



Local Public Health Agencies Assessment of Capacity

■ Unable/Limited ability to do ■ Able to do ■ Able to do well/very well



Questions



- What kind of data do we need?
- What indicators do we need?
- What other information would be helpful?